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# Pest Management News



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OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND APPLICATIONS PROGRAM  
2500 SHREVEPORT HIGHWAY • PINEVILLE, LOUISIANA 71360

## A Message To Our Readers

As most of our readers know, the IPM Program will close out at the end of the current fiscal year. Consequently, this will be the final issue of Pest Management News. We would like to take this opportunity to thank our loyal readers for their response and support over the 5 years of the Program and to let them know how very much we all benefitted from sharing news, views, and information with them. Publications described in the various issues of the newsletter will continue to be available through the Southern Region, 1720 Peachtree Rd., NW, Atlanta, GA 30367 or Southern Forest Experiment Station, Room T-10210, U.S. Postal Service Bldg., 701 Loyola Avenue, New Orleans, LA 70113. We encourage all of you to keep in touch with our staff whose new affiliations are described elsewhere in these pages or in other issues.

## A Final Word To Colleagues And Friends

I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks to the many scientists, specialists, graduate students, technicians, and support personnel who have contributed ideas, developed plans, participated in the research, development and application activities, and, most important, provided the results that have been the real substance of the two accelerated southern forest pest management programs. This has spanned a wide range of subject matter, disciplines, and organizations in and outside the South. Thank you for your enthusiasm, your innovativeness, your persistence, your willingness to work with others, and your contributions to our increased expertise in dealing with pine bark beetles and diseases in southern pine forests.

I also appreciate the continued contributions of the members of the Oversight and Guidance Committee and the Technical Panel. Their input provided technical backup to the program management team, helped maintain our credibility, and provided a broader perspective in planning, reviewing, and disseminating program activities and results.

We received considerable support from and experienced much interest on the part of Cooperative State Research Service, Forest Service, industry, universities, and State forestry organization administrators and staff personnel. Without such support, it would have been impossible to do business and much more difficult to facilitate and coordinate studies within and among organizations over a large geographic area.

And I am especially appreciative to the program management team — Gerry Hertel, Garland Mason, Susan Branham, and Julie Wilson — who did more than their share with enthusiasm and interest. Their contributions and support made my job easier and the overall experience a pleasurable one. I hope you enjoyed your work as much as I did.

Again, many thanks to all of you. Bob Thatcher, Program Manager.

## Berisford Receives Hopkins Award

At the recently concluded Southern Forest Insect Work Conference, held July 29-August 1 in Asheville, NC (see PM News #54), Dr. C. Wayne Berisford of the University of Georgia was named the 1985 recipient of the A.D. Hopkins Award, which recognizes those with outstanding records of service to southern forest entomology. The award is presented only in those years when, in the opinion of the Awards Committee of SFIWC, a truly deserving individual has been nominated. The Work Conference recognized Berisford for the significance and originality of his research, effectiveness of his extension activities, and quality of his teaching. He was only the second recipient of this prestigious award, and was the Award Committee's unanimous choice. In making the presentation, Committee Chairman Roy Hedden (Clemson University) remarked that no one in his field is as respected by his peers as Berisford. Congratulations, Wayne!

## National Guard Battles Louisiana Beetles

A 50-man contingent of the Louisiana National Guard is now on active duty doing battle with the southern pine beetle in that State, according to press reports. Several crews of six or seven persons each — all handpicked volunteers — have wielded chainsaws by order of the State government to help contain the epidemic spread of SPB, and have cut approximately 4,000 trees in beetle-infested spots since the operation began in midsummer. The Guardsmen, who received on-the-ground training beforehand, are applying cut-and-leave controls to small infestations involving less than 5 acres on State and private lands. Foresters from the State forestry office lay out the area to be cut and supervise the cutting operations. National Guard spokesmen did not speculate on how long their mission might have to continue. At last count, more than 33,000 acres of Louisiana forest land were infested by the SPB. Landowners with infestations larger than 5 acres in size are being encouraged to hire consultants to inspect their property and logging contractors to perform salvage operations.

In the meantime, private industry in the State is trying to create a market for the heavy influx of timber from SPB control operations. State officials have expressed concern about possible economic consequences for timber owners as a result of the outbreak.

## SPB Took Heavy Toll In '84

Figures released by the SFIWC's Committee on Losses Caused by Forest Insects show that the total dollar value of losses to the southern pine beetle alone in 1984 was \$11,157,599! This figure is based on 121,316 MBF and 61,809 cords of pine timber mortality attributable to the pest. More than 50 percent of the total represents losses on State and private ownerships. The figures include both documented and estimated losses and are compiled annually for SFIWC from data supplied by State and Federal pest management specialists in the Southeast and Gulf South.

## Thatcher Named Assistant Director At Asheville

IPM Program Manager Bob Thatcher has been appointed Assistant Station Director for Continuing Research for Florida and Georgia, Southeastern Station, Asheville, NC. Bob will take over his new post upon conclusion of the IPM Program, which terminates at the end of this fiscal year. In his new position, he will oversee

research activities based at numerous facilities in the South dealing with such fields as mycorrhizal research; biology, ecology, and management of cone and seed insects; forest products and utilization research, urban forestry; plantation and seed orchard diseases; fire and weather research; and integrated pest management.

## Goodbye And Thanks From Broomall

I have just completed my first year as Program Manager for Gypsy Moth Research with the Northeastern Forest Experiment Station in Broomall, PA. After 1 year, I still miss my southern colleagues very much, but am enjoying the climate here (August 12: low temp — 62°; high temp — 84°; relative humidity — 37%!!).

Let me take this opportunity to thank Bob Thatcher for letting me say goodbye and thanks. The greatest reward I had in my 6 years with accelerated research programs in the South (ESPBRAP and IPM) was my association with Bob, the other Program staff members, the cooperating scientists, and you — the readers of the newsletter, the users of the latest pest management technology.

We always hoped that we're doing something that would benefit pest management specialists and foresters, something that would enable you to make better decisions. Later this year, a technology transfer report will be published that will summarize the efforts that were made to put our findings into practice.

That's all for now. Remember always that YOU'VE GOT A FRIEND IN PENNSYLVANIA. Sincerely, Gerry Hertel.

## Branham Joins SO Station Publications Staff

At the conclusion of the IPM Program, Writer-Editor Susan Branham will be joining the Information and Publications Services staff of the Southern Station, headquartered in New Orleans, LA. Susan joined the IPM team in 1983 after serving on both the Research and Office of Information staffs in the Forest Service's Washington Office. In her new position, Susan will be involved in the writing and editing of a comprehensive monograph on loblolly pine with Assistant Station Director Bob Schultz, as well as preparation of articles for the popular media, and the editing of Station publications. She is scheduled to report to New Orleans on September 30.

## Wilson Transfers To Utilization Group

IPM Staff Secretary Julia Wilson will be transferred to another Southern Station Research Work Unit in Pineville, LA, when the Program concludes September 30. Julie will be joining Dick Hemingway's staff, which is engaged in studies on the processing of southern woods.

She has been with the IPM Program since its inception in 1981 and also briefly with its predecessor ESPBRAP. Prior to that, Julie worked in the Pineville Field Office of Forest Pest Management.

## Injunction Issued Against Wilderness Cutting

A preliminary injunction issued by a Federal Court in July restricts the extent of timber cutting for SPB control in wilderness areas. The injunction affects the States of Louisiana, Mississippi, and Arkansas, and prohibits cutting in beetle-infested areas except where infestations threaten the habitat of the red-cockaded woodpecker, an endangered species. In the latter event, the cutting must be in strict accordance with guidelines established by the Fish and Wildlife Service Wildlife Habitat Management Manual. The injunction will stand until the merits of the case are heard later this fall.

At this writing, all three States report outbreak levels of SPB, and in Louisiana, nearly 50 percent of the Kisatchie Hills Wilderness Area has already been infested. The Forest Service controlled a small SPB infestation there in August to protect a woodpecker colony, after giving written notice to the F&WS office in Jackson, MS. There are 18 known red-cockaded woodpecker colonies in the Wilderness, according to Forest Supervisor Bob Joslin. Monitoring of the area is continuing.

## Hail And Farewell

Time flies when you're having fun! Seems like only a few months ago that the IPM Program was gearing up; today it's in its final stages of winding down. An outstanding pool of talent was assembled to direct the program, to conduct the research through university, State, Federal, and extension and industry cooperators, and to get the technology into the hands of users through these same cooperators. Great progress has been made in extending our scientific understanding and in developing and applying improved practices for coping with the bark beetle and disease complex affecting southern pines.

I would personally like to thank each of you for your efforts, cooperation, and friendship during our association through the IPM Program. I would especially like to thank Bob Thatcher, Gerry Hertel, Susan Branham, Julie Wilson, and all the folks in Pineville, LA, for lots of good times and for a personally and professionally rewarding 4 years with the Program. Now that the Program is closing out, and the talents are dispersing to undertake new challenges, I am already hearing of great successes in new technical areas and of individuals ac-

cepting new job opportunities all around the country. Remember as you move on to these new challenges: all roads lead to wild, wonderful, West Virginia — drop by when *you* are passing through. Garland N. Mason.

## IPM Technology Transfer Methodology Summarized

"Technology Transfer in Integrated Forest Pest Management in the South," a synopsis of technology transfer approaches and their application through IPM-sponsored demonstration projects, will be published through the Southeastern Station as a General Technical Report after the Program's closeout. The volume is edited by Gerard D. Hertel (NE), Susan J. Branham (SO), and Kenneth Swain (R-8) and contains chapters by IPM cooperators throughout the southern States dealing with their experiences with technology transfer in the field of integrated pest management. The publication is expected to be available early next year. Inquiries should be directed to: Southeastern Forest Experiment Station, 200 Weaver Blvd., Asheville, NC 28804.

## Post-Program Handbooks In The Works

Three IPM-sponsored Agriculture Handbooks are currently in press that are due for publication after the program's termination September 30. These are:

Belanger, R.E.; Hedden, R.E.; Tainter, F.H. Managing Piedmont forests to reduce losses from the littleleaf disease-southern pine beetle complex. Agric. Handb. 649. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Agriculture. (In press.)

Patterson, D.W. SAMTAM: a guide to sawmill profitability for green and beetle-killed timber. Agric. Handb. 648. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Agriculture. (In press.)

Thatcher, R.C.; Mason, G.N.; Hertel, G.D. Integrated pest management in southern pine forests. Agric. Handb. 650. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Agriculture. (In press.)

It is anticipated that these publications will be in print by the end of the year, and that copies will be available shortly thereafter. Inquiries may be directed (in the case of the first-named) to: Southeastern Forest Experiment Station, 200 Weaver Blvd., Asheville, NC 28804, or Southern Forest Experiment Station, T-10210 Postal Service Bldg., New Orleans, LA 70113. For the others, request from the New Orleans address. All will also be available from the Southern Region, 1720 Peachtree Rd., NW, Atlanta, GA 30367.

## Pesticide Use Philosophy Explored

A recent edition of TF News, newsletter of the Texas Forestry Association, included an article dealing with the use of pesticides in forestry. In the report, Scott Cameron of the Texas Forest Service described the rationale behind pesticide use in intensive management situations such as seed orchards, pointing out that without such use, seed orchards and nurseries might well be inoperable due to low yields and increased labor costs. He noted that sound IPM practices will often reduce susceptibility to insects and thus preclude the need for pesticides. Cameron went on to mention the precautionary regulations adopted this year by the Texas Department of Agriculture to protect neighbors and farm workers from the ill effects of pesticides: 1) prior notification of aerial applications and 2) a minimum reentry period in sprayed areas prohibiting entry until chemicals have dried. The new regulations apply to all crops, forest plantations, seed orchards, and nurseries.

In discussing pesticide application in seed orchards, Cameron noted that, without such controls, as much as 50 percent of a seed crop could be lost to insects and pathogens. In the case of the southern pine beetle in mature pine stands, he stressed preventive silvicultural practices, but observed that pesticides must often be used in SPB-infested residential areas. He pointed out that existing Federal and State laws now require that licenses be issued for a variety of pesticide use categories and that a certification process exists in Texas.

## Foulups, Bleeps, And Blunders

Terry Price of the Georgia Forestry Commission asked us to correct an error in the Commission's address, which appeared in PM News #54 in an article on fusiform rust. The correct address is Georgia Forestry Commission, Route 1, Box 85, Dry Branch, GA 31020. We hope our friends at the Commission did not have postal mixups because of this booboo. Though probably botanically similar, "Dry Prong" is, of course, in Louisiana!

## Where Have All The People Gone?

An era has come to a close. All of the former and current staff members of the ESPBRAP/IPM RD&A Programs already have (or will have by the time this newsletter is published) gone their separate ways in pursuit of new goals. For the sake of finalizing the records, we thought our readers would like to know where they are now:

## Title, Name and Post-Program Affiliation

Program Manager: ESPBRAP/IPM (1974-85) — Robert C. Thatcher — Assistant Station Director, Southeastern Forest Experiment Station, Asheville, NC  
Research Coordinator: ESPBRAP (1974-78) — Thomas Payne — Professor, Department of Entomology, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX  
Research Coordinator & Applications Coordinator, ESPBRAP/IPM (1978-80) and (1981-84) — Gerard D. Hertel — Program Manager for Gypsy Moth Research, Northeastern Forest Experiment Station, Broomall, PA  
Applications Coordinator: ESPBRAP (1978-80) — Jack E. Coster — Director, School of Forestry, West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV  
Research Coordinator: IPM (1980-85) — Garland Mason — Project Leader, Silvicultural Options for the Gypsy Moth, Northeastern Forest Experiment Station, Morgantown, WV  
Integration/Modeling Coordinator: ESPBRAP (1976-78) — William Leuschner — Professor, Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State Univ., Blacksburg, VA  
Applications Coordinator: ESPBRAP (1975-77) — Paul E. Buffam — Director, Forest Pest Management, Pacific NW Forest & Range Experiment Station, Portland, OR  
Writer/Editor: ESPBRAP (1977-79) — Tom Wiseman — Editor, Forest Farmer Association, Atlanta, GA  
Writer/Editor: ESPBRAP/IPM (1978-81) — Janet L. Searcy — Writer/Editor, Washington Office, FS, Washington, DC  
Writer/Editor: IPM (1983-85) — Susan J. Branham — Writer/Editor, Southern Forest Experiment Station, New Orleans, LA  
Staff Secretary: ESPBRAP/IPM (1980-85) — Julia G. Wilson — Secretary, Utilization Research, Southern Forest Experiment Station, Pineville, LA  
Staff Secretary: ESPBRAP (1974-80) — Eugenia Lynch — Retired, Pineville, LA

## Backyard IPM Described

The practice of integrated pest management in the home setting is well expounded in a recent AMERICAN FORESTS urban forestry feature written by an extension entomologist at the University of California in Berkeley. In the article, IPM intent is viewed in the light of controlling pests more cost effectively. The author notes that the practice was born nearly 30 years ago in California's agricultural valleys as a reaction to the "pesticide-first" approach that was not only prompting chemical resistance in harmful pests but also causing some formerly innocuous insects to become serious because their own natural control agents had been decimated by chemical sprays.



In integrated pest management, the article observes, control measures are "introduced into" rather than "inflicted on" the environment. The use of complementary and collectively employed practices is stressed. The author reports that some commercial agricultural firms are now offering expert IPM service to clients, and estimate a potential reduction of 50-90 percent in pesticide use without detriment to plants.

The article goes on to detail damaging aspects of several urban forest pests (including bark beetles) and how IPM can help to manage them. IPM emphasis is placed on planting pest resistant stock and preventing or alleviating tree stress.

## DOD Pest Information Network In Operation

A recent flyer from the Forest Insect and Disease Research Staff of the Forest Service's Washington Office describes the Defense Pest Management Information Analysis Center (DPMIAC), an information and communication service of the Armed Forces Pest Management Board, available to Federal personnel and Federally sponsored contractors. AFPMB develops and recommends pest management policy and coordinates pest management activities for the Defense Department.

The DPMIAC collects and stores published and unpublished information on pests and natural resources in a computer database and a comprehensive reference library. It disseminates information to users through automatic telephonic recorder and facsimile transmission equipment in operation 24 hours a day. Among the information services available are bibliographic literature searches on biology, control, ecology, distribution, and taxonomy of plant pests, structural pests, and pesticides; technical consultation on pests; distribution of a Technical Information Bulletin highlighting current news on pesticides, hazardous wastes and natural resources, and hard copy of periodic bibliographic updates. Contact: Defense Pest Management Information Analysis Center, AFPMB, Forest Glen Section, Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Washington, DC 20307-5001; phone 301/427-5365.

## Other Publications

Branham, S.J.; Thatcher, R.C.; Mason, G.N.; Hertel, G.D. Integrated pest management in the South: highlights of a 5-year program. Agric. Inform. Bull. 491. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Agriculture; 1985.

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Lih, M. Refinement and use of a simulation model for the prediction of southern pine beetle population growth and tree mortality. Fayetteville, AR: University of Arkansas; 1985. 142 p. [M.S. Thesis].

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